

MAPPING FREIGHT: The Highly Concentrated Nature of Goods Trade in the United States

1 Project Background

2 Project Findings

3 Implications and Next Steps

Project Background

SUMMARY: The “Metro Freight” project uses quantitative and qualitative analysis to highlight how metro and rural areas function within the country’s domestic and international goods trade networks.



Project Background

Initial Products

Framing Paper + Video

Metro Trade Volumes

Metro Trade Networks

Future Releases

Transportation Reliances

Metro "Ports"



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WHAT

WHERE

HOW

\$17.2 trillion

domestic trade market

National Trade Components

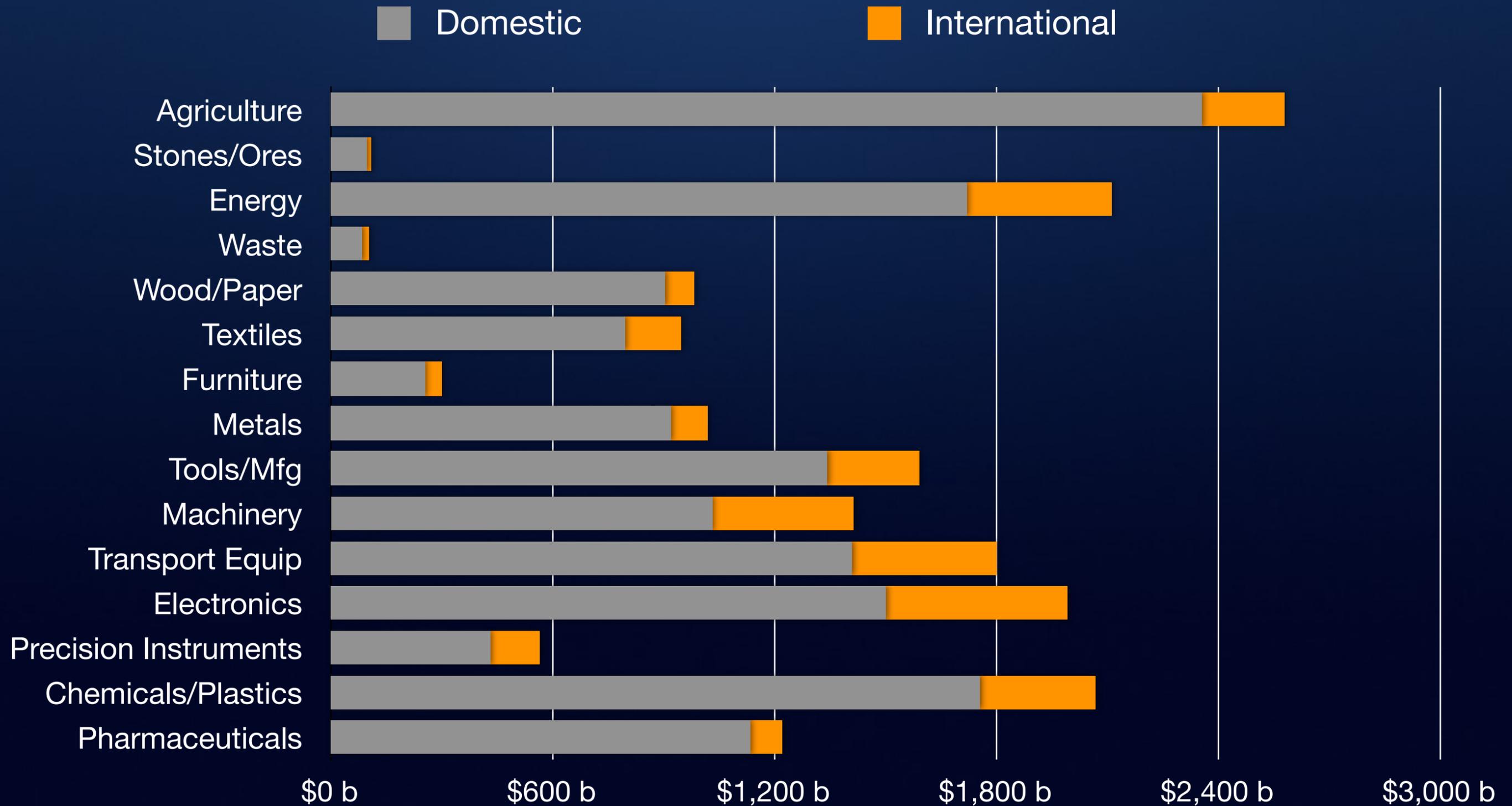
15%
International
Market



85%
Domestic Trade
Market

Commodities Underscore Industrial Diversity

WHAT

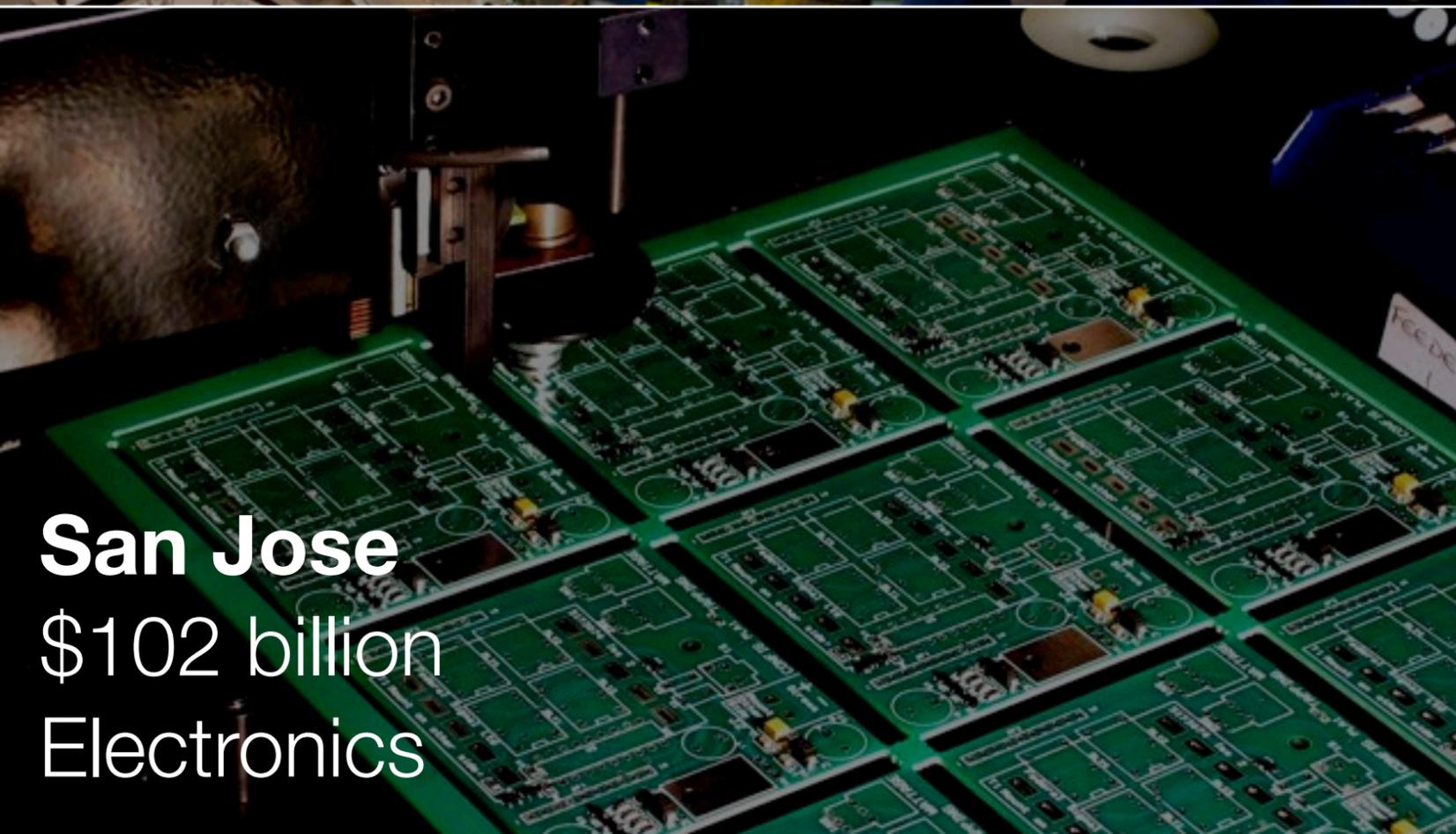




Detroit
\$111 billion
Transportation Equipment



Minneapolis
\$24 billion
Precision Instruments



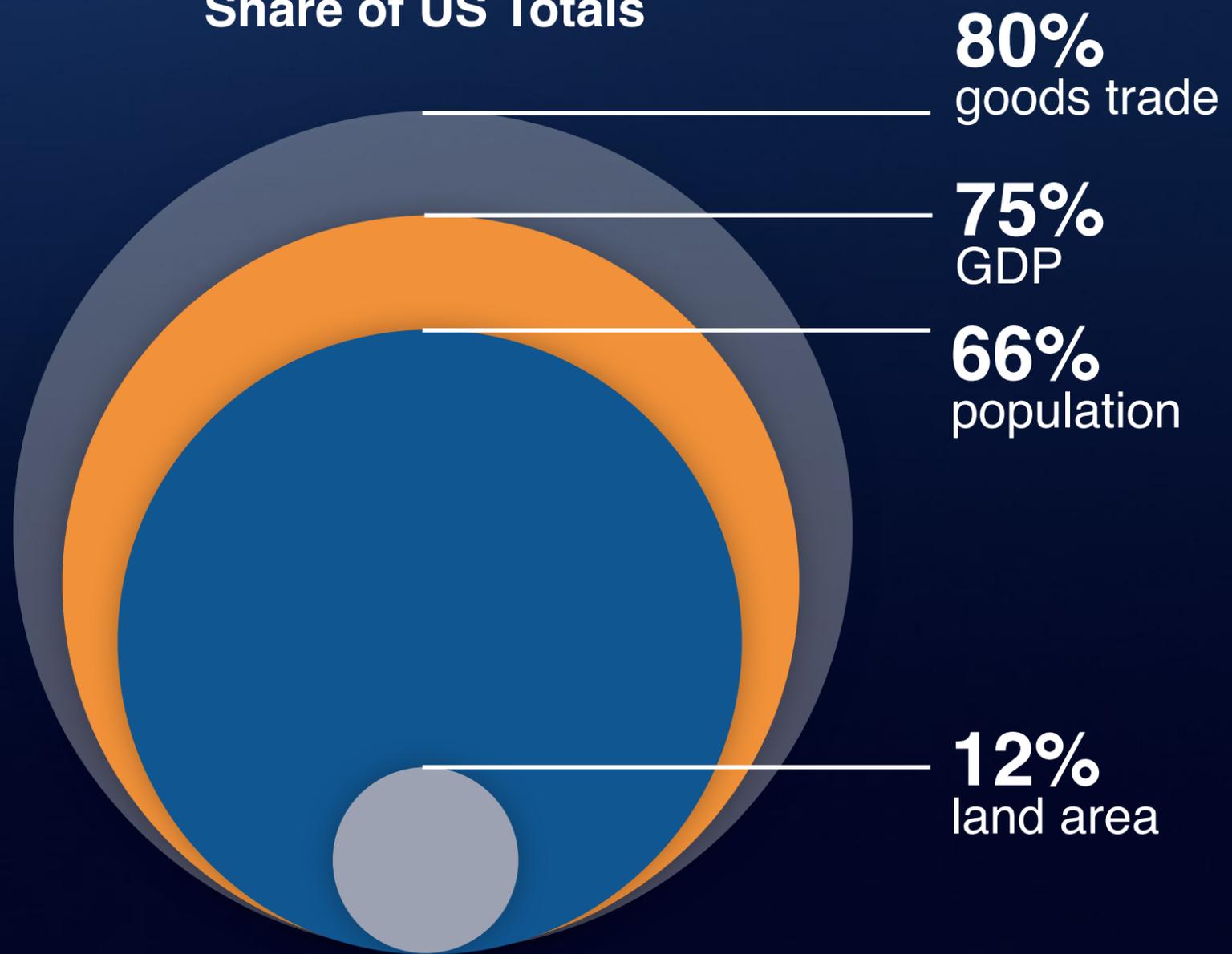
San Jose
\$102 billion
Electronics



Houston
\$125 billion
Chemicals + Plastics

Top 100 Metros

Share of US Totals



What Affects Trading Relationships?

WHERE



Population



Complementary Industries



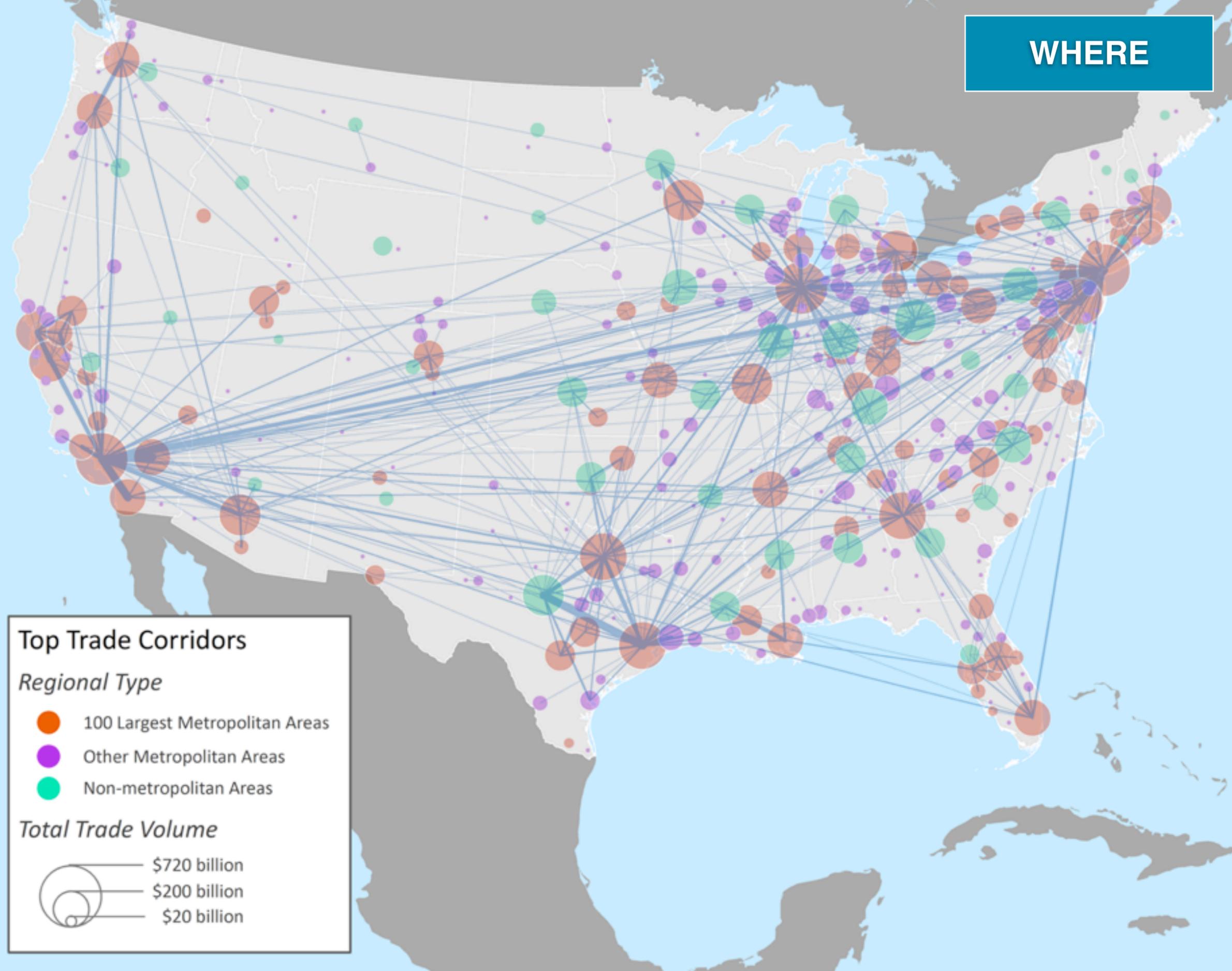
Logistics Workforce



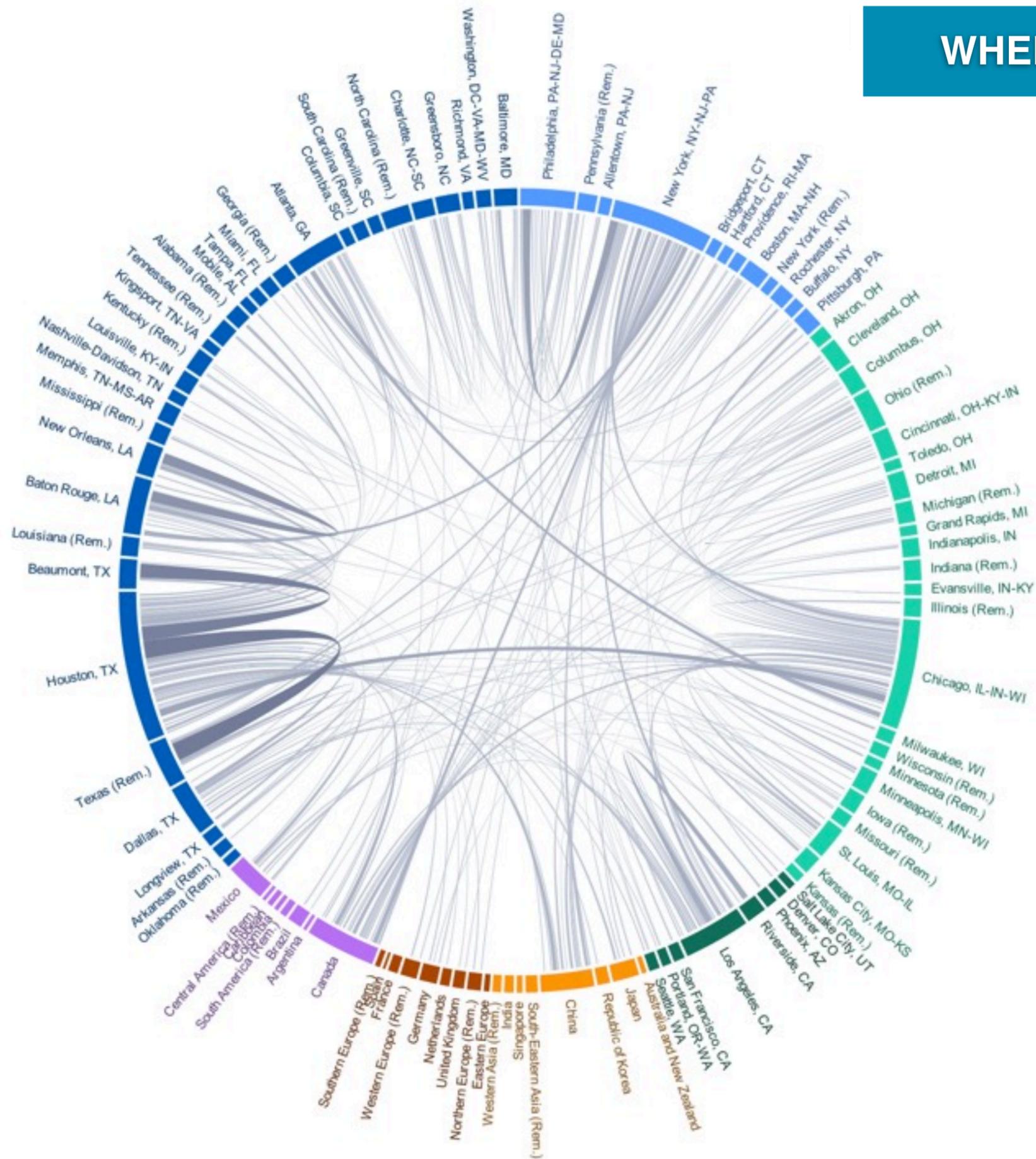
Distance between Markets

WHERE

The result is a hierarchy among places, with large national trading hubs and smaller regional partners



Chemicals/Plastics trade, led by flows from and within the Gulf Coast, display clustered trading activity

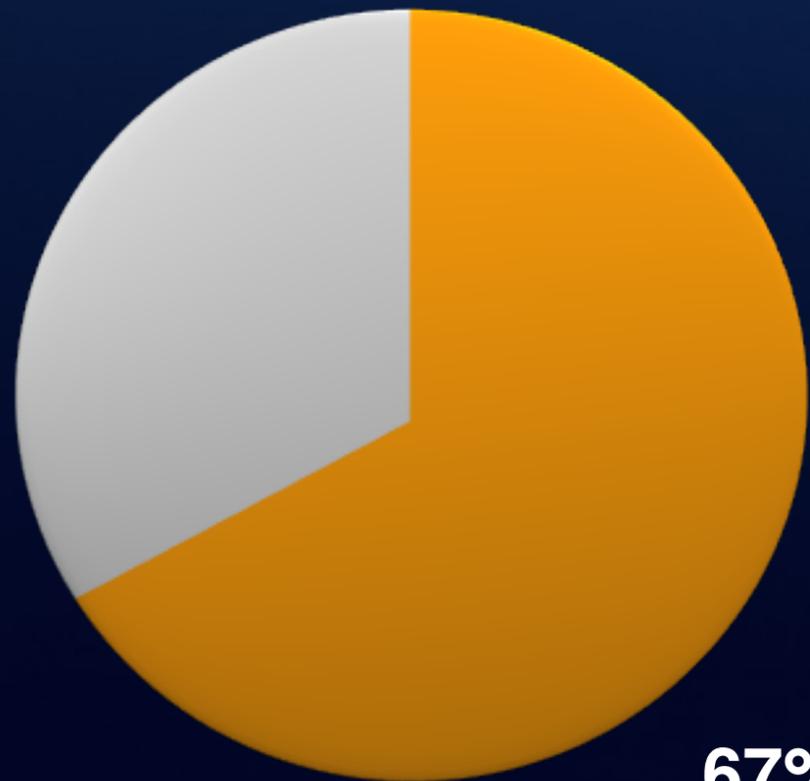


77 percent

share of trade crossing state borders

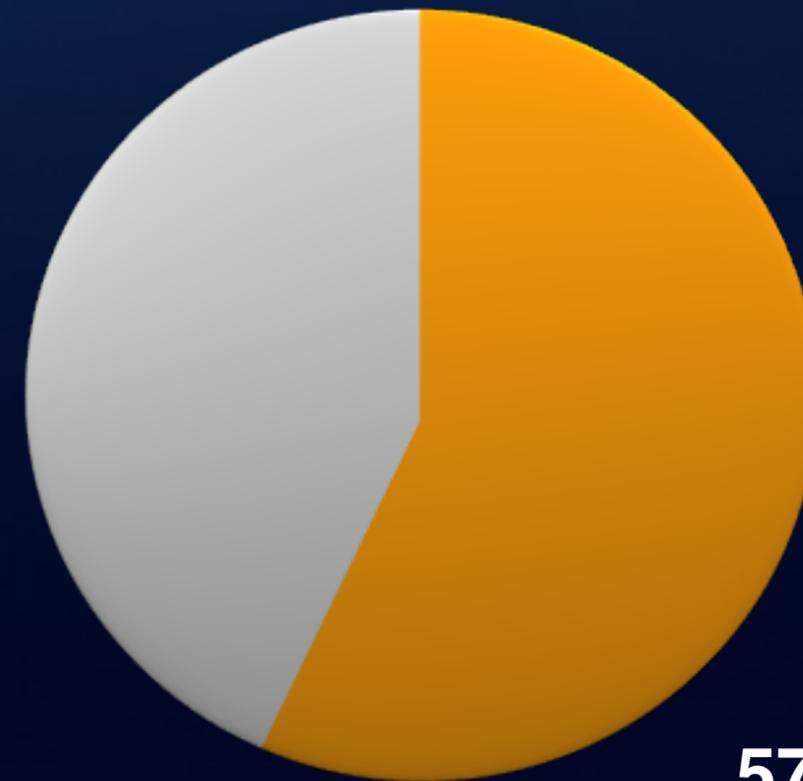
Trucking Moves the Nation's Goods

Value



67%
Trucking

Weight



57%
Trucking

75 percent

17 metros' share of
US port trade



5 percent

local trade at US ports



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View economic and transportation concerns more collectively



Regional economies



Air and Sea Ports



Freight Corridors

We need a new federalist freight policy framework

FEDERAL



Maintain current assets while prioritizing investment in congested places

STATE



Form stronger partnerships with neighboring states and local metro areas

LOCAL



Innovate land uses to grow industry and assist first- and last-mile freight

A New Federal Investment Program

FORMULA FUNDS



Provide guaranteed, multimodal funding to states based on interstate commerce levels

PLACE-BASED COMPETITION

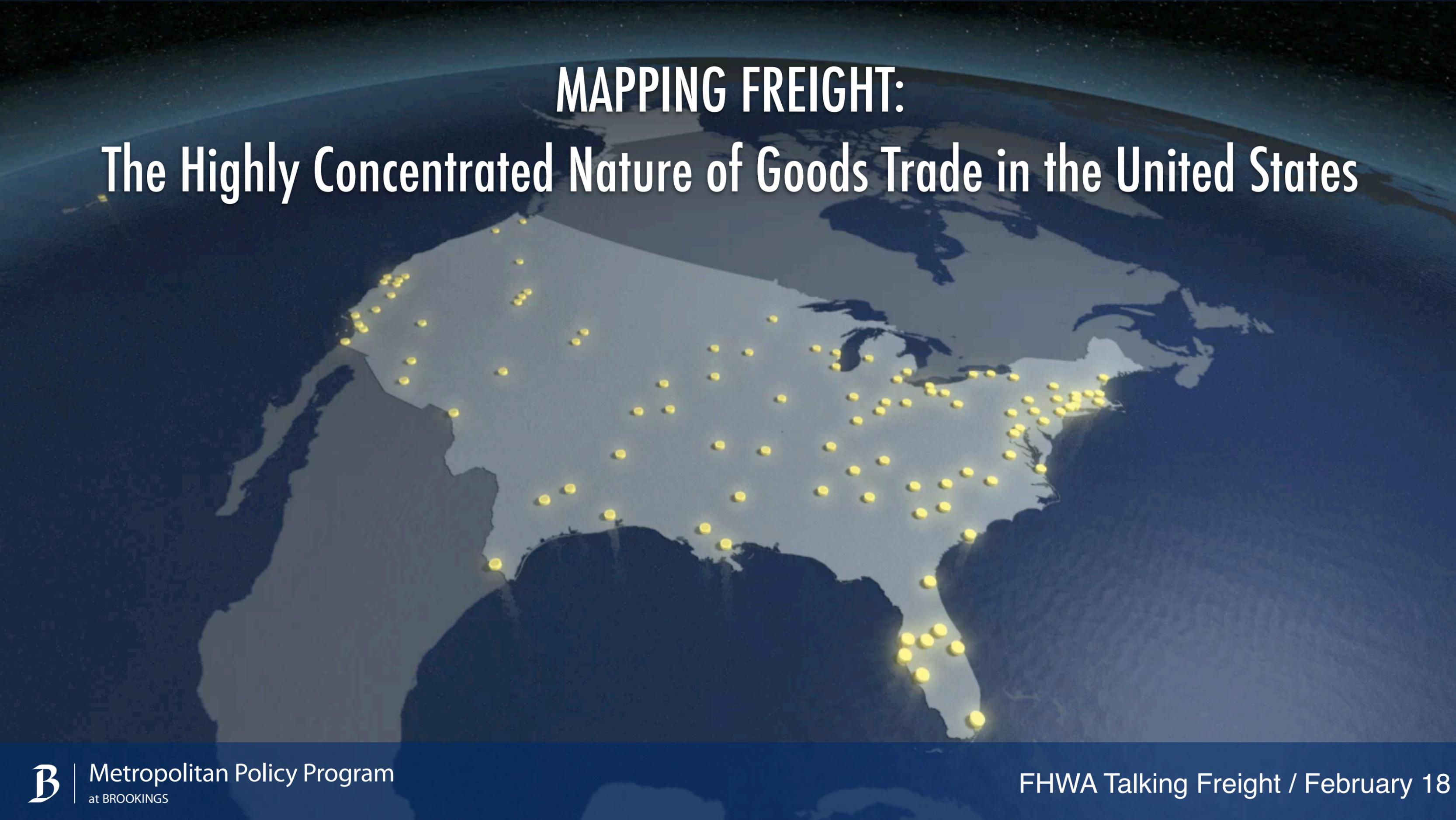


Reward nationally-significant metro and rural areas with flexible funding for multiple projects

DATA AND ELIGIBILITY



Invest in better data to improve project planning and investment



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